



GUY GARDNER
WARRIOR™

33
AUG 88

BEAU
CAMPOS
DAVIS

THE WAY OF THE WARRIOR?

PART 4



I HAD A BAD FEELIN' THAT WHEN I SLUGGED DOWN THAT CUP OF WATER OF THE WARRIORS THAT THERE'D BE MORE TO DEAL WITH THAN JUST THE NASTY AFTERTASTE.

IT ACTIVATED SOME ALIEN GENES, GIVIN' ME WEIRD MORPHIN' POWERS-- THAT I'VE ONLY RECENTLY COME TO CONTROL-- BUT IT'S BROUGHT ME TO THE ATTENTION OF SOME BUTT-UGLIES CALLED THE TORMOCKS.

I'VE HOOKED UP FOR BETTER OR WORSE WITH MY "PALS" FROM THE JLA-- ONLY BECAUSE GREEN LANTERN WAS UNAVAILABLE-- AND TAKEN THE FIGHT TO THE TORMOCKS.*

IT SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA.

WE'VE BEEN HIT!

FROM WHERE?

YOU MEAN HOW MANY...

* THIS FOLLOWS GOW ANNUAL #1, JLA #101 & HAWKMAN #22, BUT TAKES PLACE BEFORE WONDER WOMAN #99--ED.

...AND HOW BIG!

THE WAY OF THE WARRIOR

PART 4:

INTO THE VALLEY OF DEATH



BEAU SMITH
Writer

MARC CAMPOS
Pencils

DAN DAVIS
Inks

DEVASTATORS HAVE BEGUN
THE DISSIPATION OF THEIR
PRIMITIVE SHIELDS.

LEE LOUGHRIDGE
Colors

ALBERT DE SUZMAN
Letters
EDDIE BERGANZA
Edits

SHRIKE-FIGHTERS
GOING IN.



PUNCTURE AND REMOVE THE HULL. EXPOSE THOSE WITHIN.

WHAT YOU DO NOT CAPTURE--

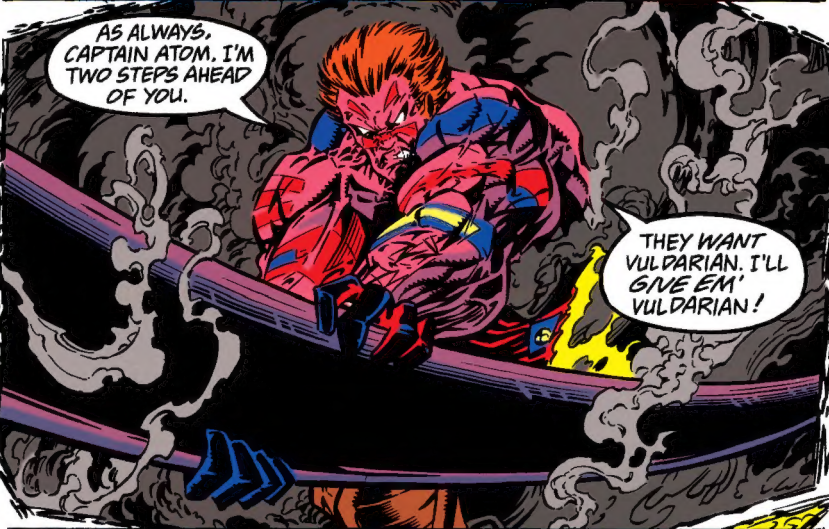
--DESTROY!



THEY'VE BROKEN THROUGH!

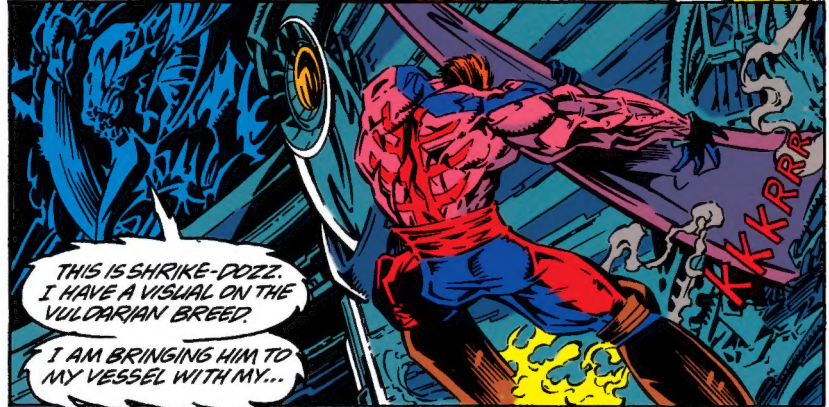
THOSE THAT NEED IT, ACTIVATE YOUR PERSONAL SUPPORT FIELDS.

WE'VE GOT TO TAKE THIS FIGHT TO THEM BEFORE THEY DESTROY THE SHIP!



AS ALWAYS, CAPTAIN ATOM, I'M TWO STEPS AHEAD OF YOU.

THEY WANT VULDARIAN. I'LL GIVE EM' VULDARIAN!



THIS IS SHRIKE-DOZZ. I HAVE A VISUAL ON THE VULDARIAN BREED.

I AM BRINGING HIM TO MY VESSEL WITH MY...

KKKKRRR



PINCERRRRRAAGH!!

THAT'S GOTTA HURT.

KRAKKK

TOO BAD.



KEEP PUNCHING AT IT. THIS METAL... IT'S LIKE SKIN.

THEN LET US SEE IF IT HAS ANY BONES I CAN BREAK.

UHH!

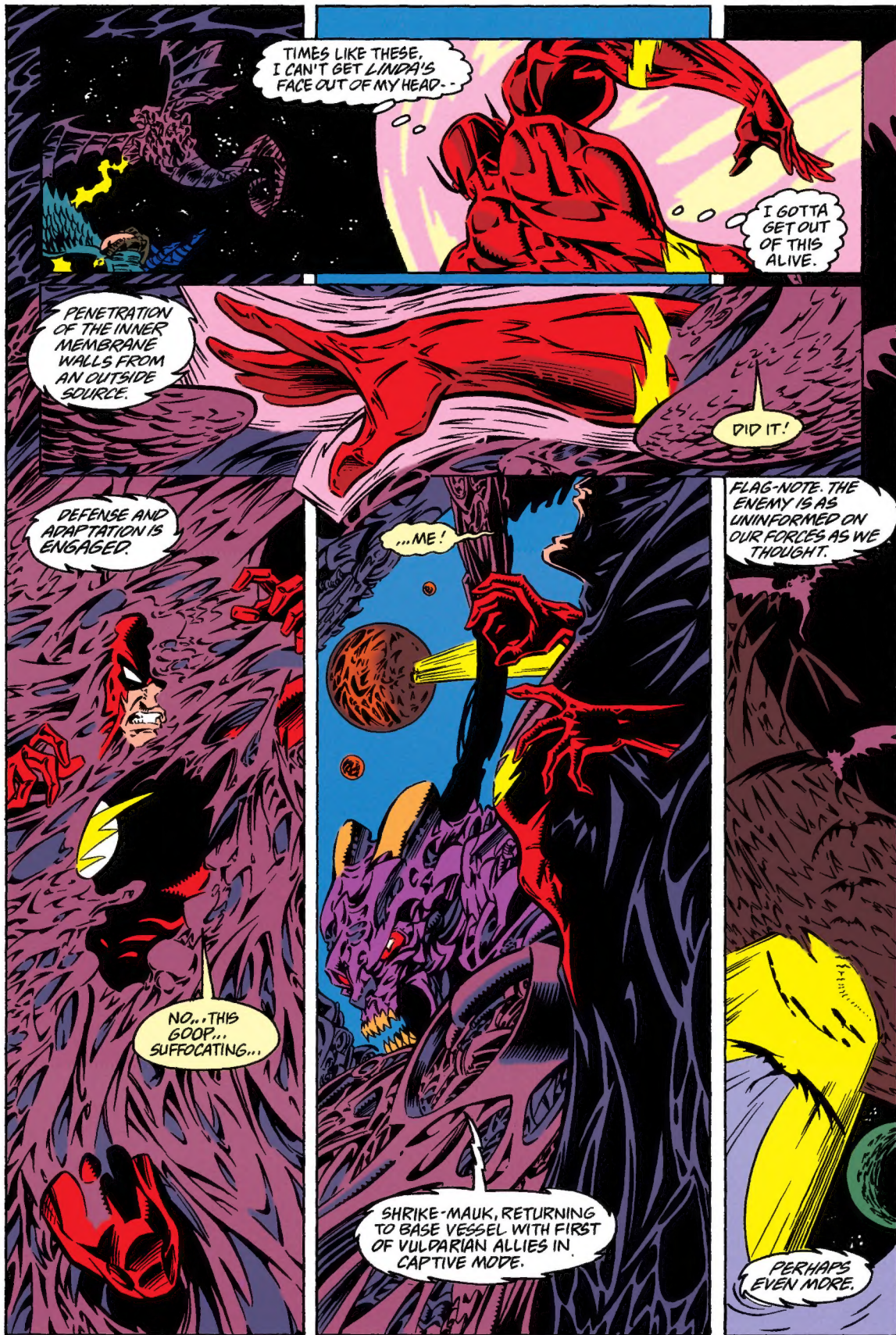
IT'S REVERSED GRAVITY POLES!

I'M GOING TO ACCELERATE RIGHT INTO THAT CREEP'S FACE AND TAKE CONTROL OF THAT SHIP.

YOU SURE THAT'S A SHIP?

FLASH, WHAT ARE YA DOIN'?

BLAADOOM



TIMES LIKE THESE,
I CAN'T GET LINDA'S
FACE OUT OF MY HEAD--

I GOTTA
GET OUT
OF THIS
ALIVE.

PENETRATION
OF THE INNER
MEMBRANE
WALLS FROM
AN OUTSIDE
SOURCE.

DID IT!

DEFENSE AND
ADAPTATION IS
ENGAGED.

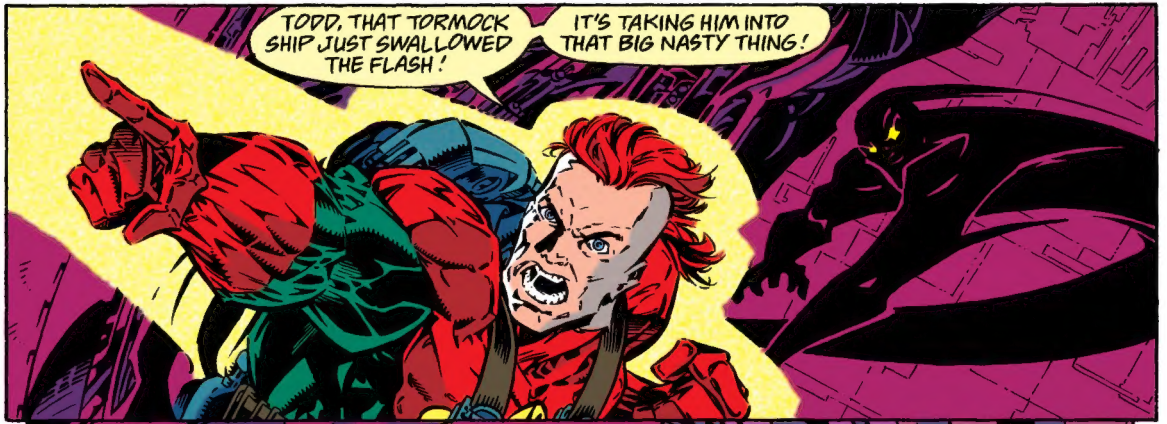
...ME!

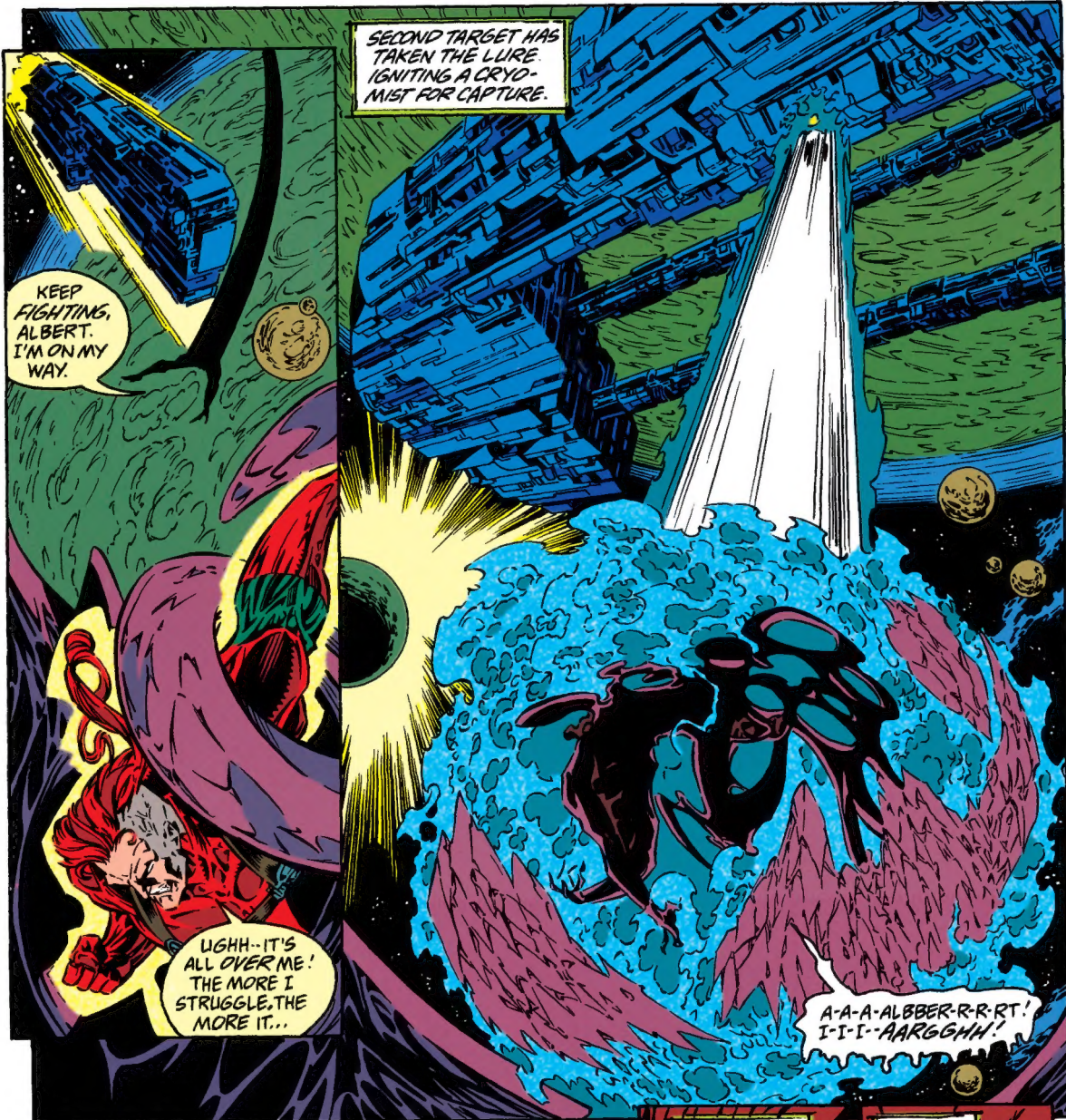
FLAG-NOTE. THE
ENEMY IS AS
UNINFORMED ON
OUR FORCES AS WE
THOUGHT.

NO...THIS
GOOP...
SUFFOCATING...

SHRIKE-MAUK, RETURNING
TO BASE VESSEL WITH FIRST
OF VULPARIAN ALLIES IN
CAPTIVE MODE.

PERHAPS
EVEN MORE.



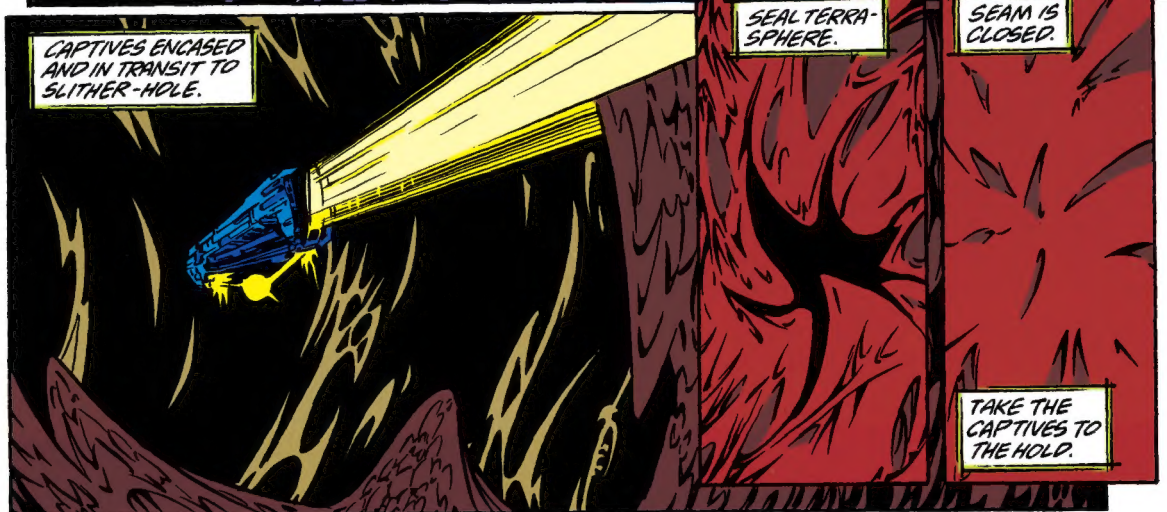


SECOND TARGET HAS
TAKEN THE LURE
IGNITING A CRYO-
MIST FOR CAPTURE.

KEEP
FIGHTING,
ALBERT.
I'M ON MY
WAY.

UGHH--IT'S
ALL OVER ME!
THE MORE I
STRUGGLE, THE
MORE IT...

A-A-A-ALBER-R-R-RT!
I-I-I--AARGGH!



CAPTIVES ENCASED
AND IN TRANSIT TO
SLITHER-HOLE.

SEAL TERRA-
SPHERE.

SEAM IS
CLOSED.

TAKE THE
CAPTIVES TO
THE HOLD.

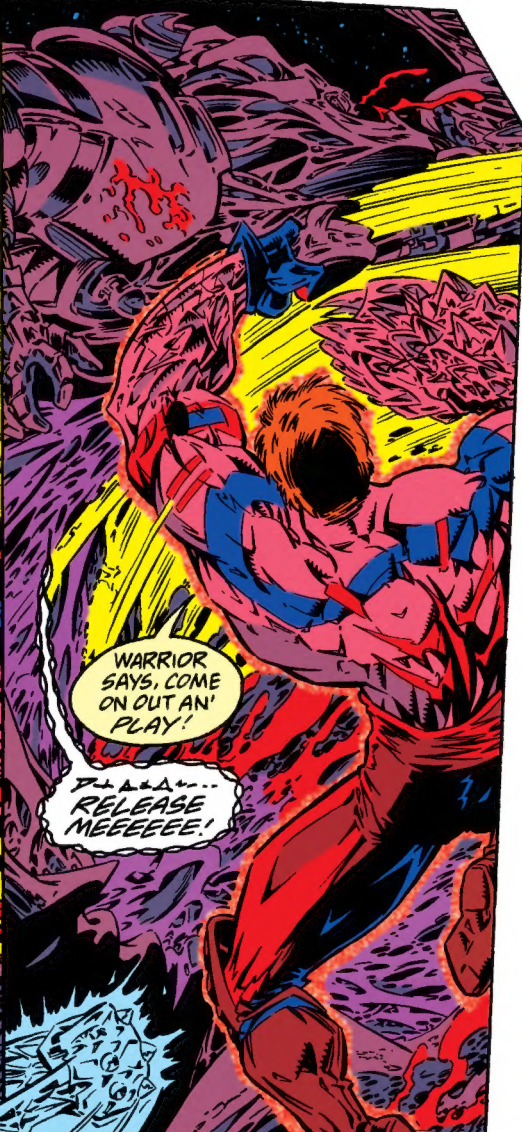


YOU
SLITHERIN'
BAGS OF SHIT
ARE PRETTY
TOUGH IN
YOUR COZY
LITTLE SHELLS,
AIN'T YA?



WELL, DON'T BE
SHY, CREEP.

KERAACKH

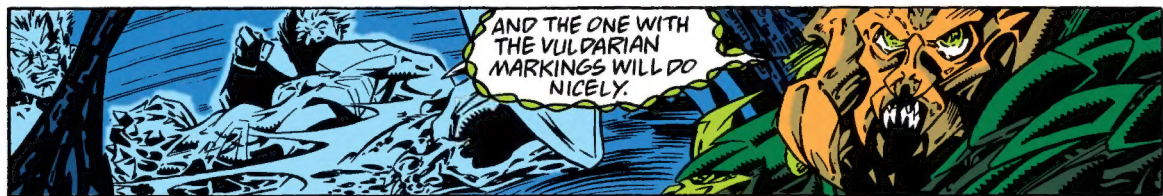


WARRIOR
SAYS, COME
ON OUT AN'
PLAY!

PLA...
RELEASE
MEEEEEE!



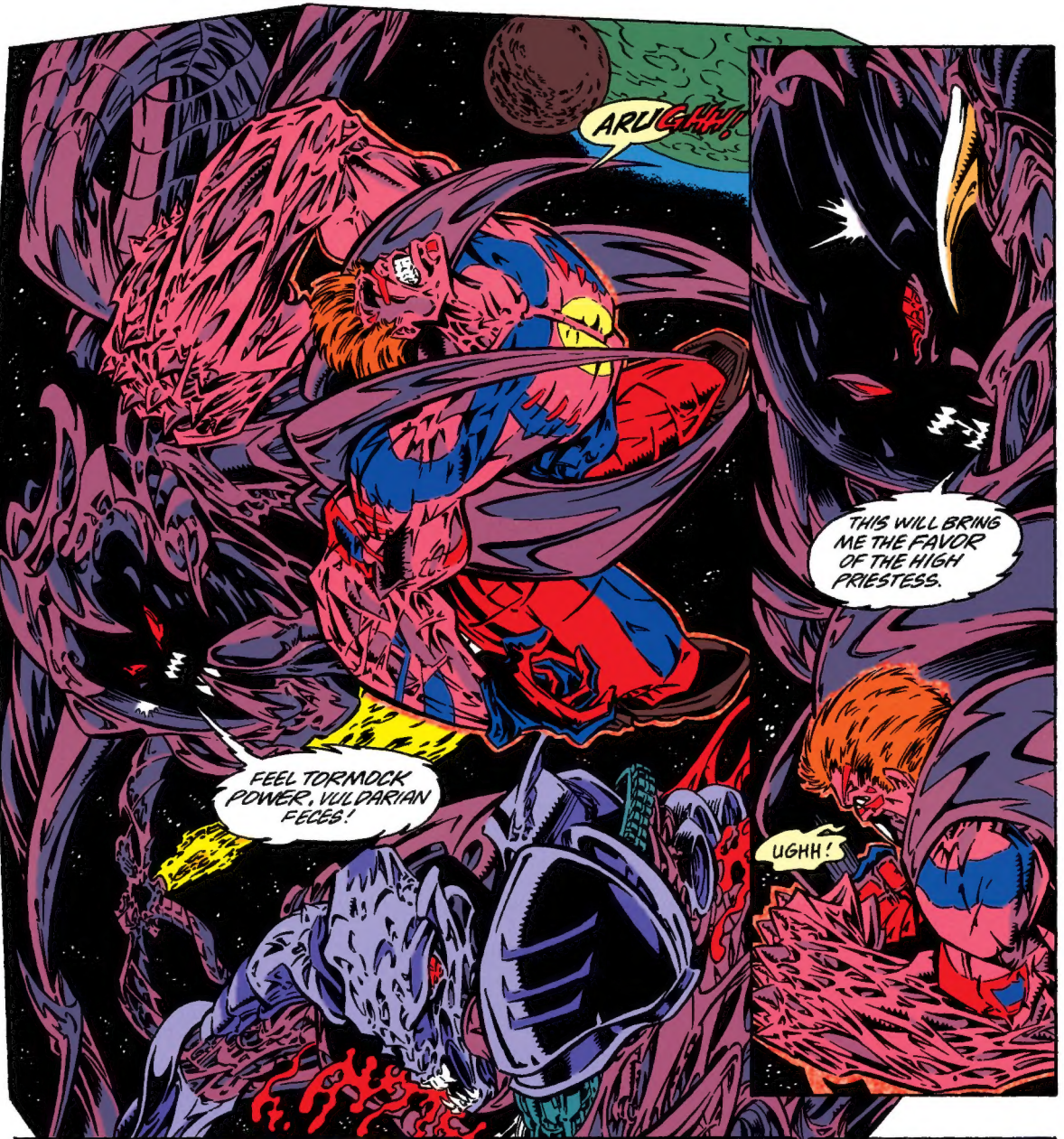
HHMMM, I AM
IN NEED OF A
NEW TOY.

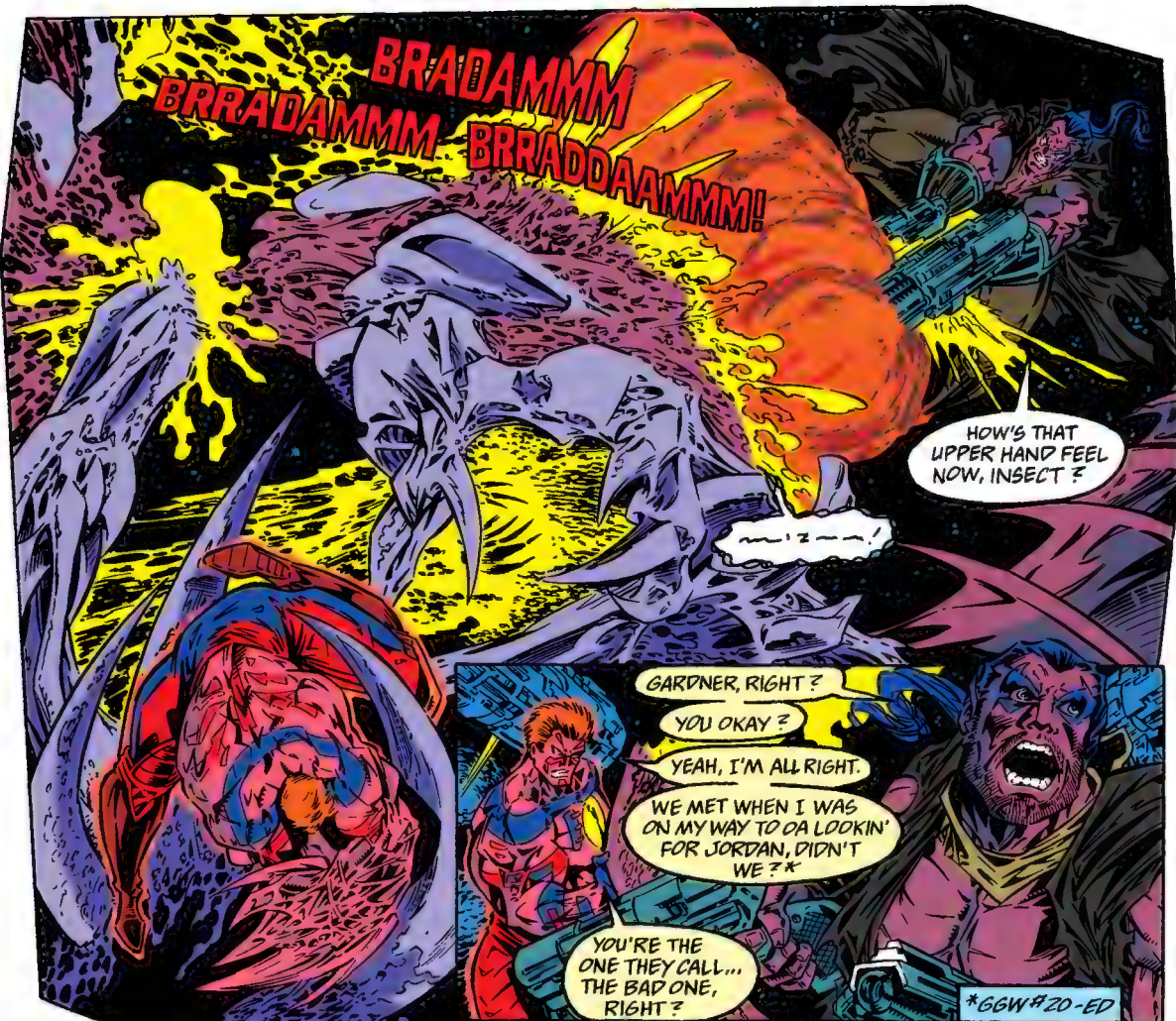


AND THE ONE WITH
THE VULPARIAN
MARKINGS WILL DO
NICELY.



SHRIKE-TEAMS
BRING THE VULPARIAN
DIRECTLY TO ME.





BRADAMMM
BRRADAMMM BRRADDAAMMM!

HOW'S THAT
UPPER HAND FEEL
NOW, INSECT?

GARDNER, RIGHT?

YOU OKAY?

YEAH, I'M ALL RIGHT.

WE MET WHEN I WAS
ON MY WAY TO DA LOOKIN'
FOR JORDAN, DIDN'T
WE?*

YOU'RE THE
ONE THEY CALL...
THE BAD ONE,
RIGHT?

*GGW#20-ED

YEAH, THAT'S THE NAME I'VE
EARNED FROM MY ENEMIES.
YOU CAN CALL ME
PROBERT.

TORMOCKS HAVE NEVER BEEN REAL
POPULAR WITH ME. I'VE SEEN TOO MUCH
OF THEIR POISON IN MY LIFE.

MAKES SENSE. THEY'VE BEEN
DOGGIN' ME EVER SINCE MY
VULPARIAN SIDE HAS SPRUNG
UP.

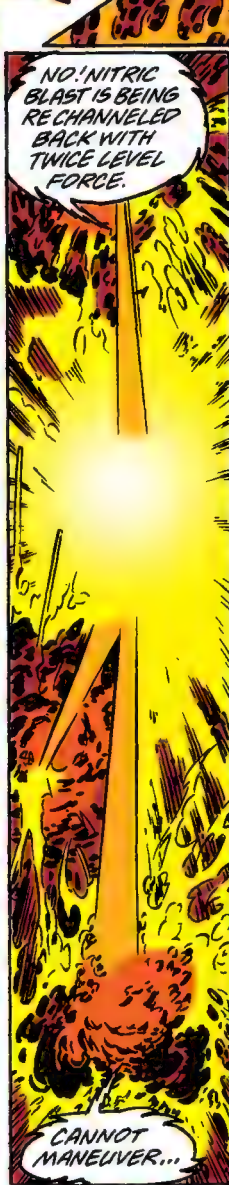
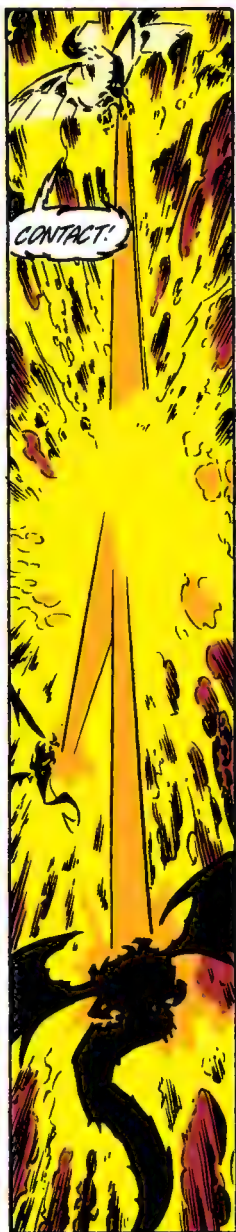
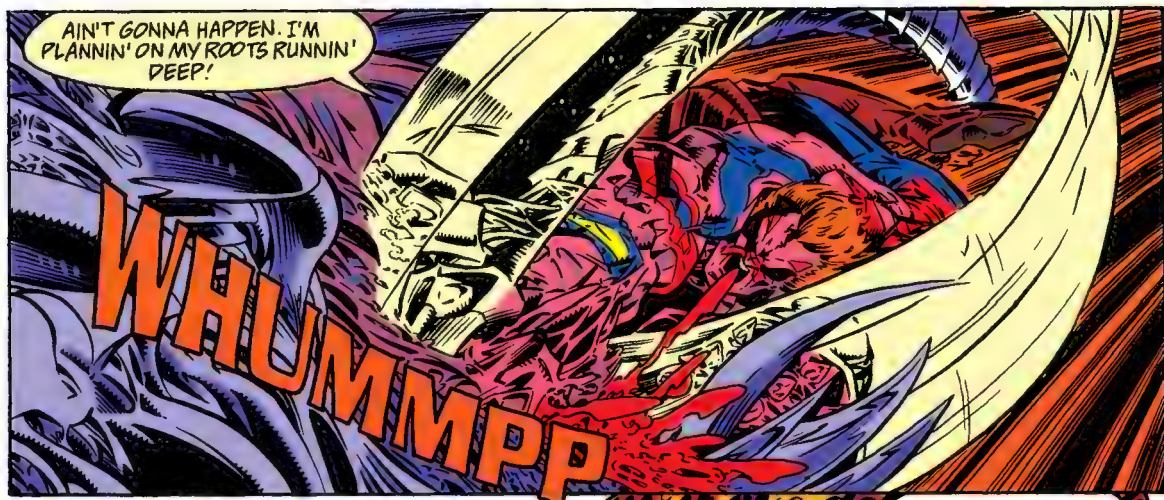
I TRY NOT TO MISS AN
OPPORTUNITY TO JERK A KNOT IN
THEIR COLLECTIVE BUTTS
WHEN I CAN.

THE WAY I HEARD
IT WAS TORMOCKS
HAVE A FEW
VULPARIANS IN THEIR
FAMILY TREE...

GUESS YOU COULD
SAY THEY DON'T
LIKE MY LOOKS.

...AND THEY
DON'T LIKE THE THOUGHT
OF NEW BRANCHES
SPROUTIN' UP.

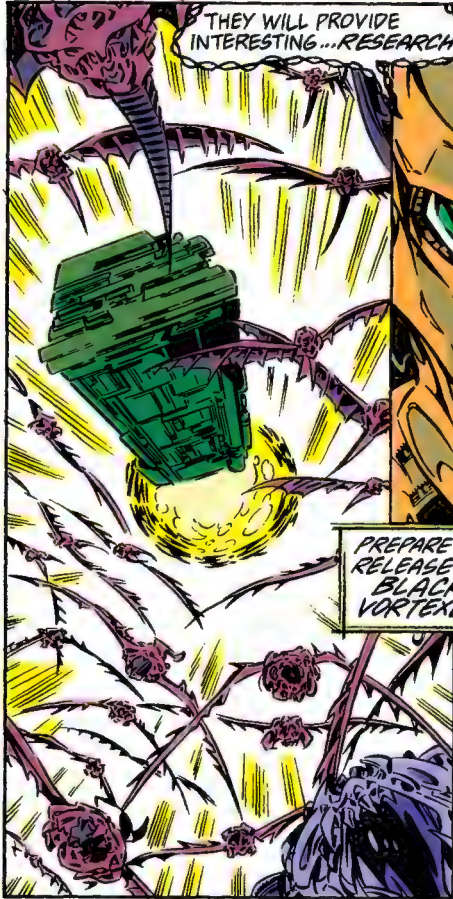
THEY'RE LOOKIN'
TO PRUNE YOU
BACK, BUD.





STRANGE.
A MARTIAN, AN
ALMERACIAN, AND
EVEN ONE COVERED IN
ONE OF OUR METALS.

THE BREED HAS
ALLIED HIMSELF
WITH A MOST
INTRIGUING CORE
GROUP.



THEY WILL PROVIDE
INTERESTING...RESEARCH

PREPARE TO
RELEASE THE
BLACK
VORTEXER.



TAKE
THEM!

YOU
WERE RIGHT,
MANHUNTER, MY
PSI-BLASTS ARE
WORKING. THEY
RETREAT
FROM IT.

THEN DO
NOT LET UP!
NOT FOR A
SECOND!



NO, IT WASN'T
YOUR BLASTS. IT'S...
PLANNED. THEY
HAVE A
PURPOSE.



OH MY
LORD, LOOK--
ABOVE!



HANG ON!
I'M COMIN'!

NO, IT'S A BLACK
VORTEXER! A LIVING
BLACK HOLE!

I THOUGHT THEY
WERE ONLY LEGENDS,
FABLES.

UHHH--
GRAVITY--
TOO
STRONG!

TAKING
US--IN--!

IT'S REAL
AND WE'VE GOT
TO SEPARATE
NOW!

NO!

DON'T RUN FROM
ME, YA STINKIN' SPACE
OIL SPILL.

COME BACK
HERE!

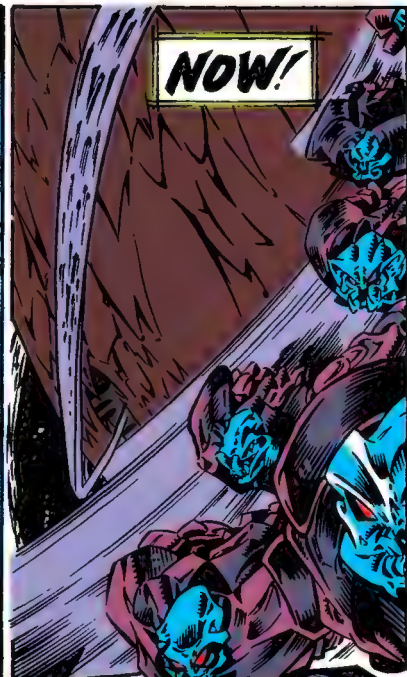
WHOOOOSH



THE ROUGH BREED.
TAKE HIM.



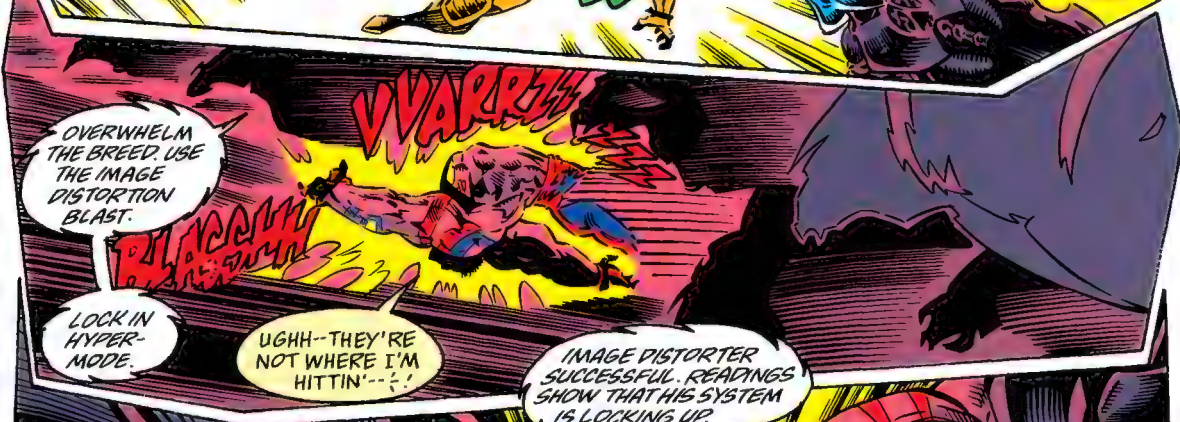
I WANT HIM
BROUGHT TO
ME.



NOW!



UGH-- HUNDREDS
OF EM' OUTTA
NOWHERE.

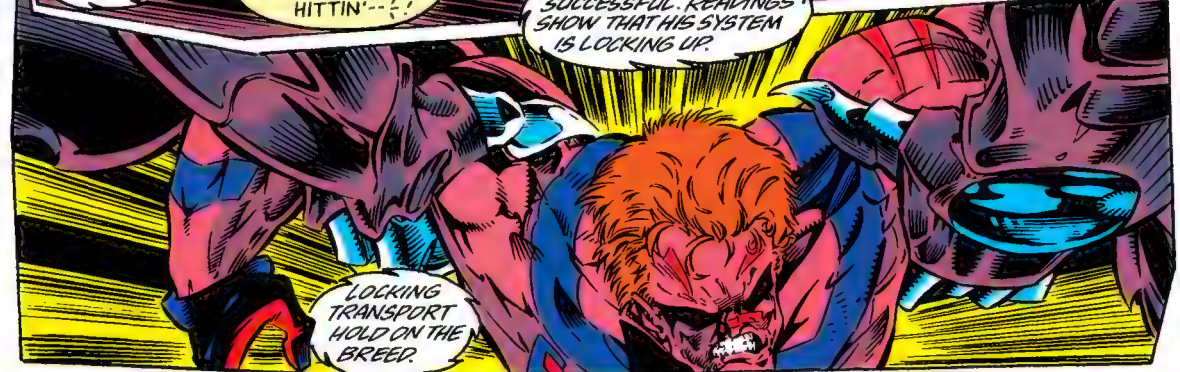


OVERWHELM
THE BREED. USE
THE IMAGE
DISTORTION
BLAST.

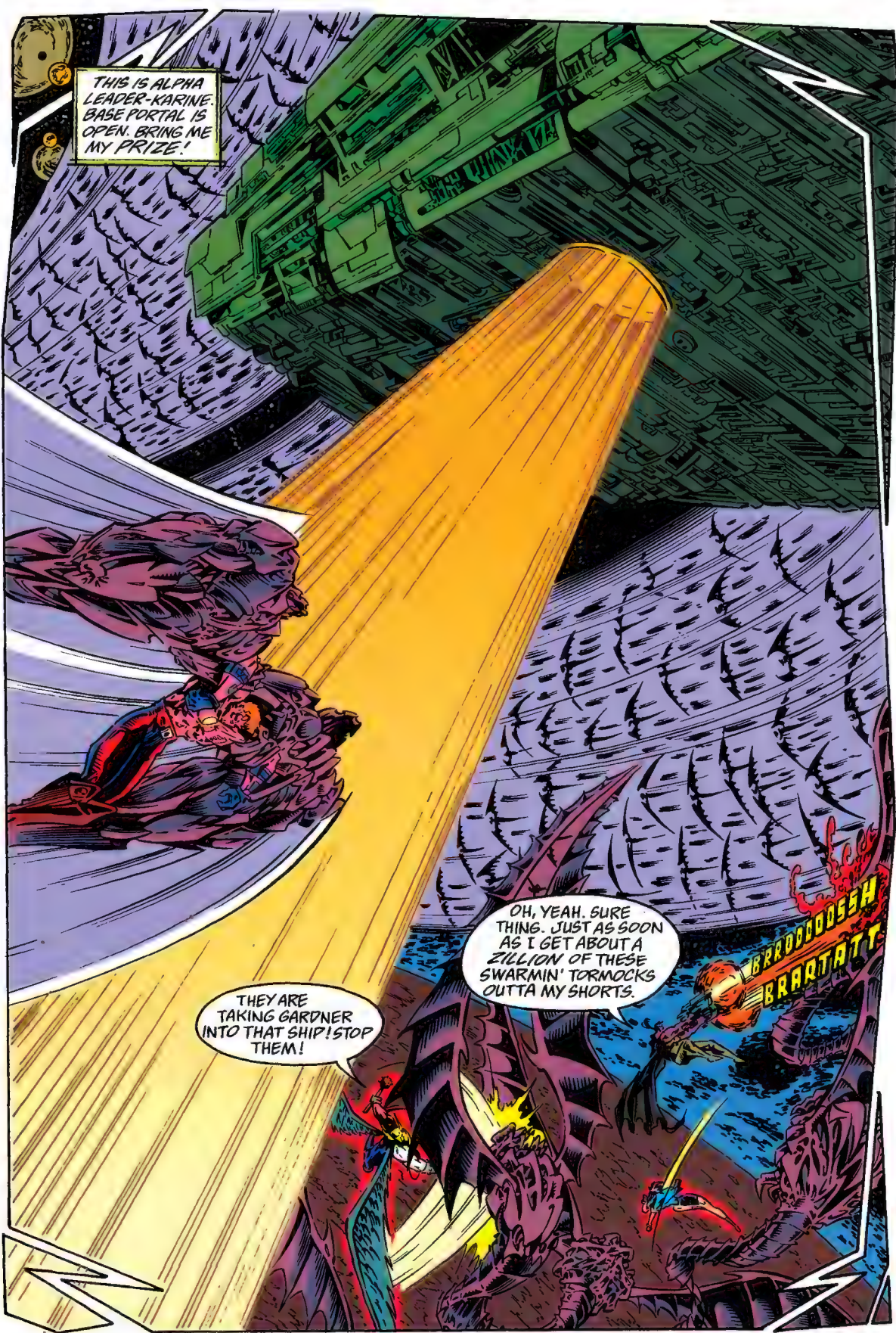
LOCK IN
HYPER-
MODE.

UGH--THEY'RE
NOT WHERE I'M
HITTIN'--!!

IMAGE DISTORTER
SUCCESSFUL. READINGS
SHOW THAT HIS SYSTEM
IS LOCKING UP.



LOCKING
TRANSPORT
HOLD ON THE
BREED.

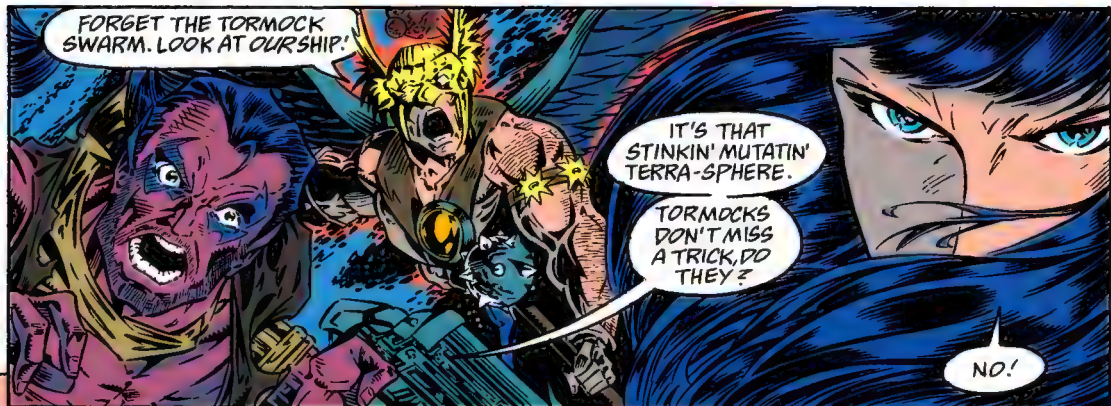


THIS IS ALPHA
LEADER-KARINE.
BASE PORTAL IS
OPEN. BRING ME
MY PRIZE!

THEY ARE
TAKING GARDNER
INTO THAT SHIP! STOP
THEM!

OH, YEAH. SURE
THING. JUST AS SOON
AS I GET ABOUT A
ZILLION OF THESE
SWARMIN' TORMOCKS
OUTTA MY SHORTS.

BROOOOOSSHH
BRAATATT



FORGET THE TORMOCK SWARM. LOOK AT OUR SHIP!

IT'S THAT STINKIN' MUTATIN' TERRA-SPHERE.

TORMOCKS DON'T MISS A TRICK, DO THEY?

NO!



BLUE DEVIL, FIRE, AND ICE MAIDEN ARE TRYING TO FIGHT IT OFF. WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THEM.



YAZZ! THE SHIP IS CRUSHING ON ITSELF!

THE SHIP'S A GONER. GET YOURSELVES OUT OF HERE WHILE YOU CAN!

BEA-- THERE'S MORE TENTACLES COMING OUT. TOO MANY.

KEEP TRYING. WE HAVE TO!

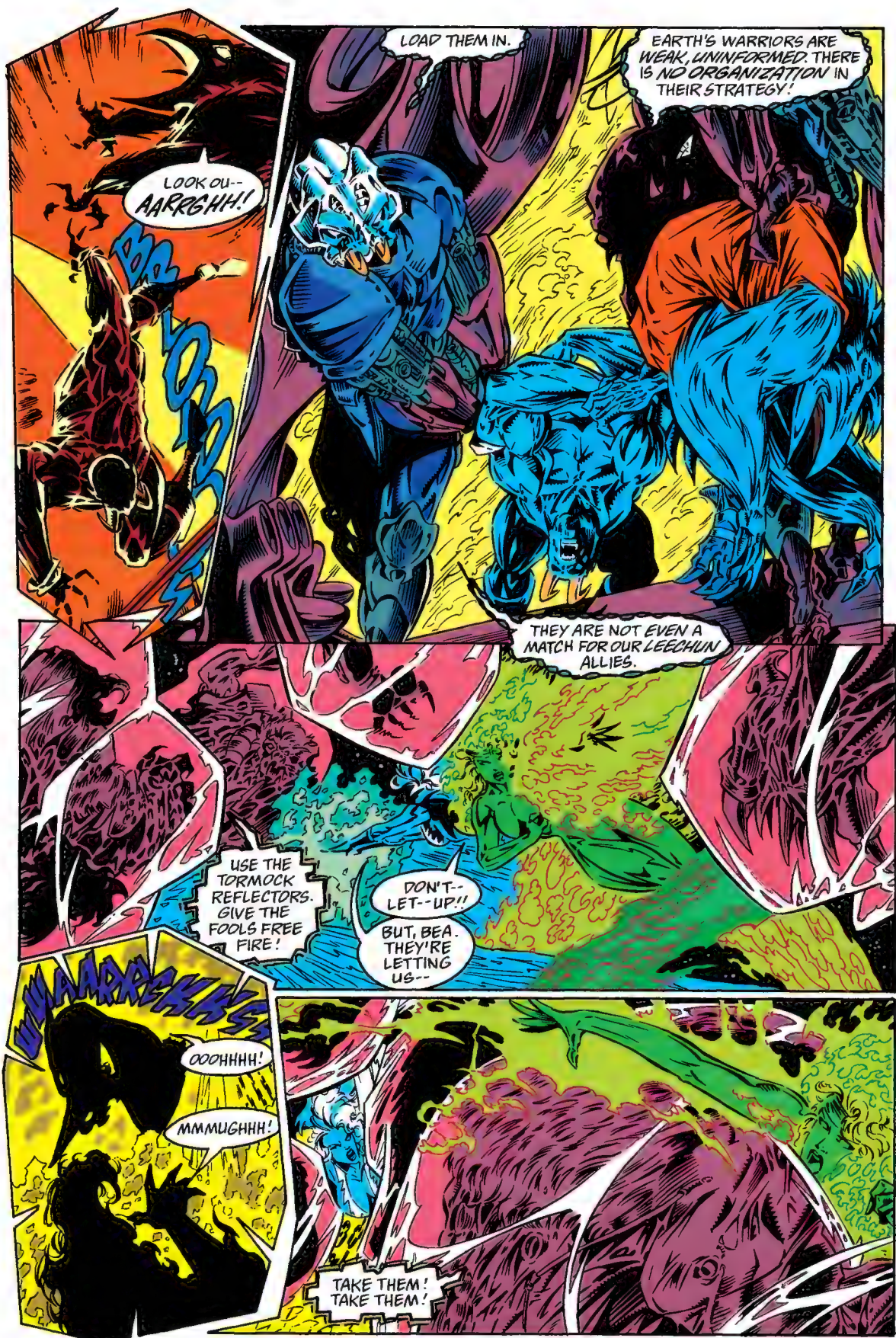


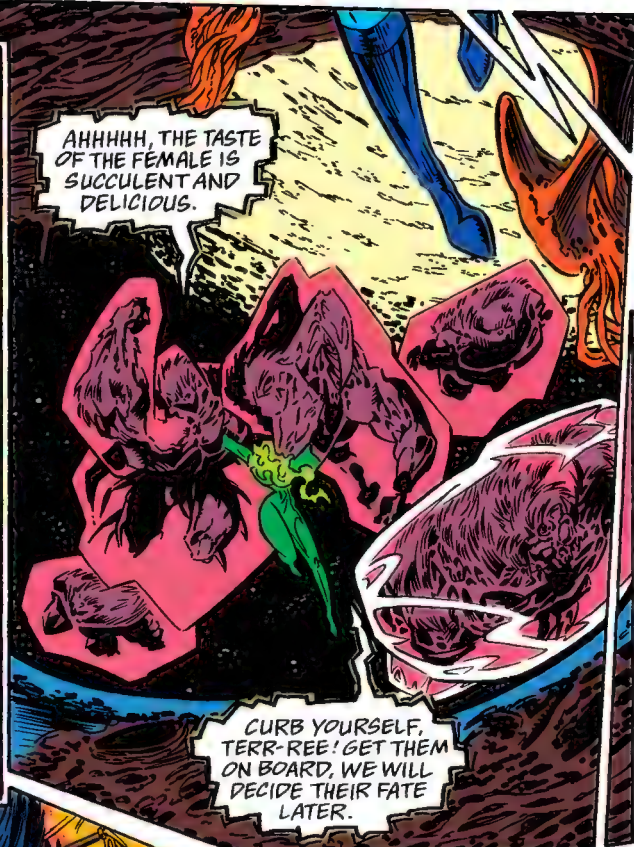
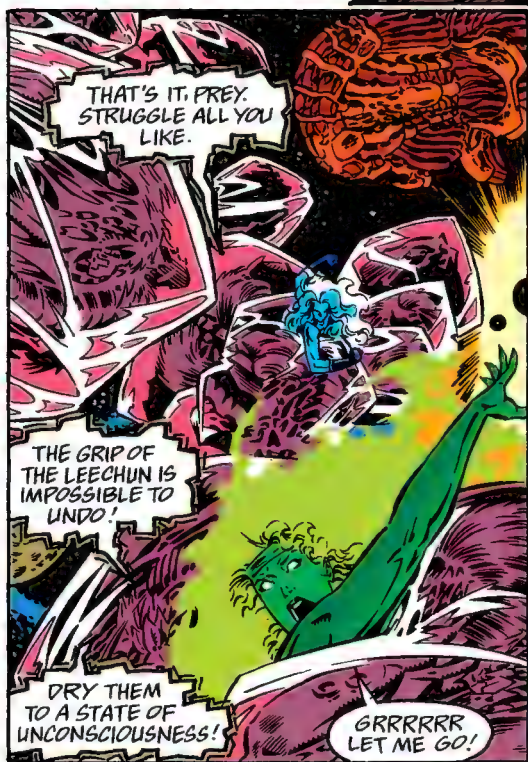
AIN'T LEAVING WITHOUT YOU, YAZZ, OL' BOY.



ONLY CAPTAINS GO DOWN WITH THE SHIP, AND CAPTAIN STUBING YOU AIN'T

NO ARGUMENT FROM ME.

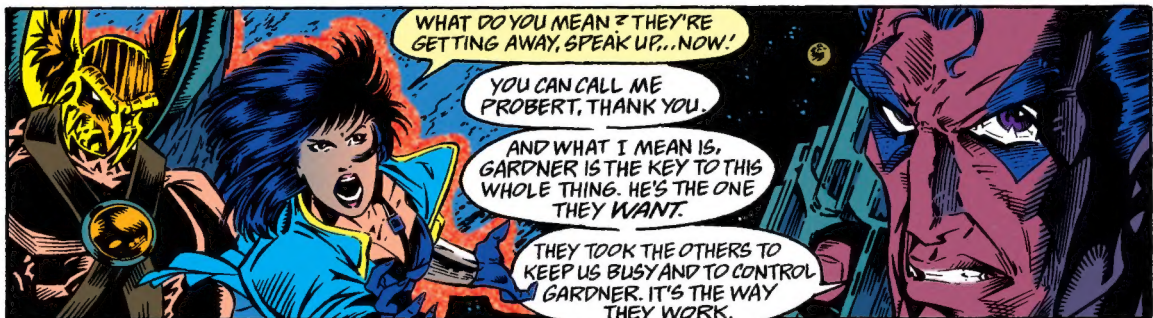






COME ON, KATAR. WE'VE GOT TO FOLLOW THEM. WE'VE GOT TO GET THEM OUT OF THAT... THING!

THAT'S JUST WHAT THEY WANT YA TO DO... UH, DIANA, RIGHT?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN? THEY'RE GETTING AWAY, SPEAK UP... NOW!

YOU CAN CALL ME PROBERT, THANK YOU.

AND WHAT I MEAN IS, GARDNER IS THE KEY TO THIS WHOLE THING. HE'S THE ONE THEY WANT.

THEY TOOK THE OTHERS TO KEEP US BUSY AND TO CONTROL GARDNER. IT'S THE WAY THEY WORK.



WHY IS GUY THE KEY? WHY DO THEY WANT HIM SO BAD?

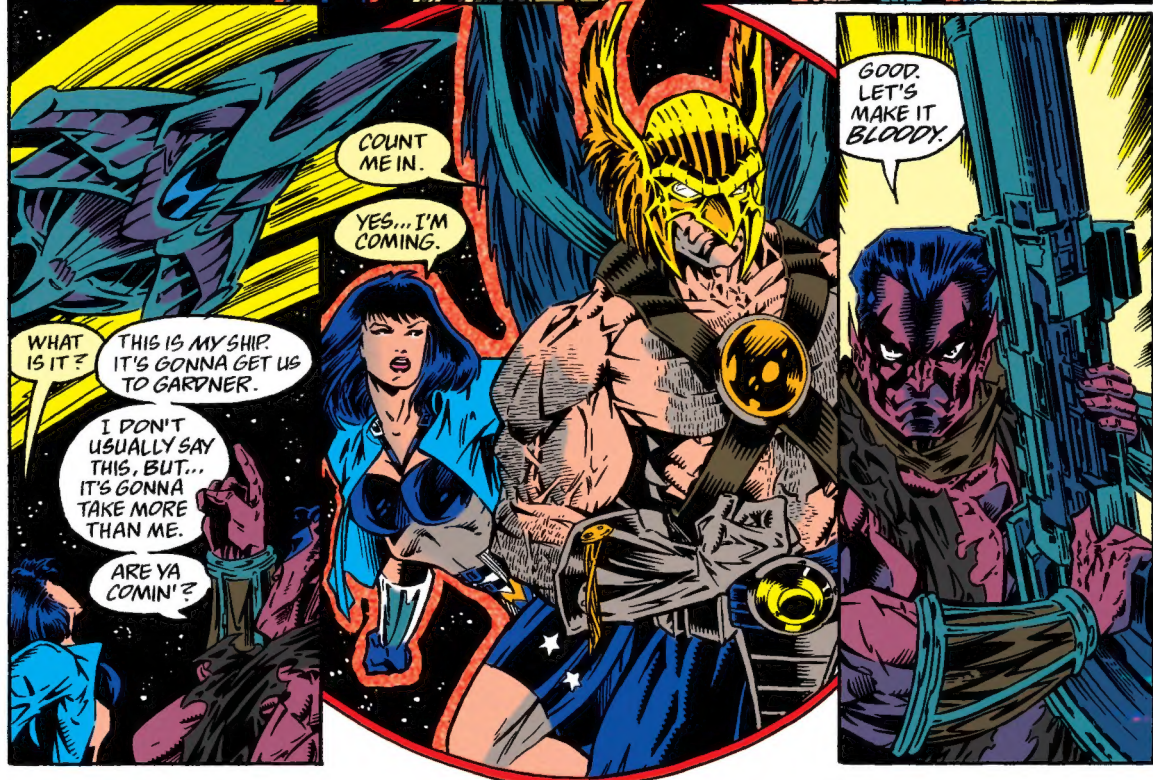
HE CAN BRING BACK EVERYTHING THAT IS A THREAT TO THEM.

HE CAN START THE WHOLE VULGARIAN WATCH-DOG FORCE ALL OVER AGAIN. THEY CAN'T HAVE THAT.

THAT'S WHY WE GOTTA FOLLOW AND FIND HIM.

IF NOT, THERE'LL BE NO END TO THE SUFFERIN' THE TORMOCKS WILL BRING ON ALL UNIVERSES.

GET READY. THERE IS ANOTHER SHIP COMING!



COUNT ME IN.

YES... I'M COMING.

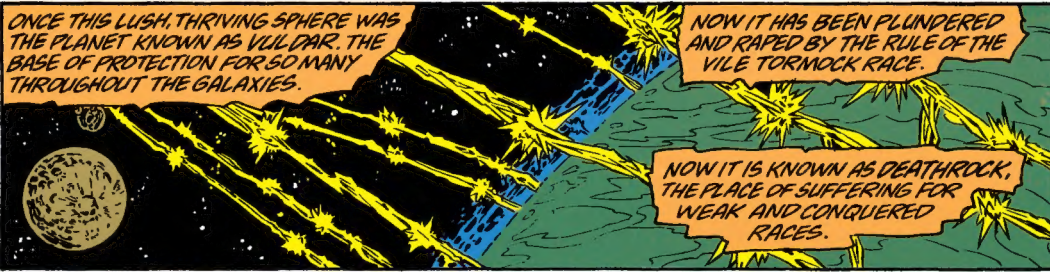
WHAT IS IT?

THIS IS MY SHIP. IT'S GONNA GET US TO GARDNER.

I DON'T USUALLY SAY THIS, BUT... IT'S GONNA TAKE MORE THAN ME.

ARE YA COMIN'?


GOOD. LET'S MAKE IT BLOODY.



ONCE THIS LUSH, THRIVING SPHERE WAS THE PLANET KNOWN AS VULDAR. THE BASE OF PROTECTION FOR SO MANY THROUGHOUT THE GALAXIES.


NOW IT HAS BEEN PLUNDERED AND RAGED BY THE RULE OF THE VILE TORMOCK RACE.

NOW IT IS KNOWN AS DEATHROCK, THE PLACE OF SUFFERING FOR WEAK AND CONQUERED RACES.



ALL VULDARIAN BEAUTY IS NOW UNDER THE CRUSHING FIST OF TORMOCK RULE.

AND THAT HAND BELONGS TO--



LORD BRONKK, I HAVE WORD FROM YOUR SISTER, KARINE, THAT THE EARTH FORCE HAS BEEN CAPTURED.

EVERYTHING HAS GONE JUST AS YOU HAVE PLANNED.

EXCELLENT!

AND WHAT OF THE VULDARIAN BREED?

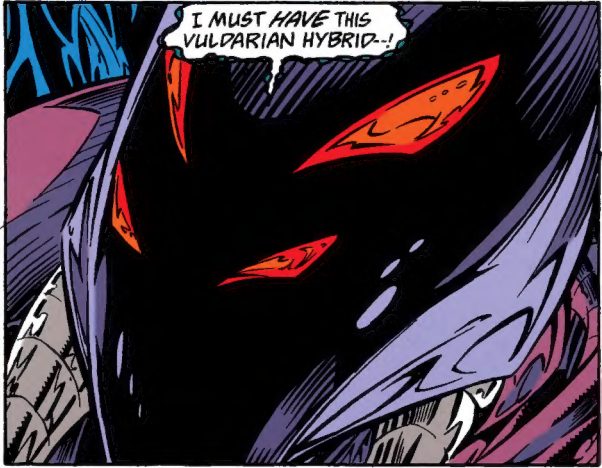


NO WORD, COMMANDER. SHE BROKE OFF COMMUNICATION AT THAT POINT.



HAVE HER REPORT TO ME AS SOON AS SHE ARRIVES.

KRAAK



I MUST HAVE THIS VULDARIAN HYBRID--!



TO BE CONTINUED IN
HAWKMAN #23...

From Baaldur, with love...

GLORITH

